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Majles Sessions

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[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met yesterday chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Nateq-Nuri, and deputies Shafi'i, Tavasolizadeh, Hazrati, and Movahed from the Fuman, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, Rasht, and Gachsaran electoral districts gave speeches. Then the speaker of the Majles gave a talk in which he offered condolences to the families of the 16 students who were killed in the tragic disaster at [Velanjak]. Then the Majles took up its agenda.

The first item on the agenda was continued consideration of the report from the first consultation of the Commission on Councils and Domestic Affairs concerning the Motion To Change the Name of Bakhteran Province to Kermanshahan, which was approved by the Majles in its general form. We now direct the attention of our dear readers to the full Majles report.

Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, Deputy From Fuman

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, deputy from Fuman. During his talk he said: [passages omitted about evil activities against Muslims by the United States and other countries]

Continuing, the speaker reminded the nation's executive officials about the lack of concern for construction and building in the province of Gilan, the lack of attention to the matter of tea and its excessive importation, the toxic nature of the drinking water in Fuman, and the need for more investment by the Cultural Heritage Organization in Masuleh.

Mohammad Reza Tavasolizadeh, Deputy From Torbat-e Haydarieh

Mohammad Reza Tavasolizadeh, deputy from Torbat-e Haydarieh, was the next speaker. In his talk he discussed 9 Dey [30 Dec], the day of sacrifice for the people of this city. He said: At a time when Muslims all over the world are being subjected to imperialist aggression, the reactionaries in the region, on the vain pretext of Abu Musa, are trying to barter and sacrifice 40 years of struggle, revolution and the rights of the heroic Palestinians for Abu Musa. In becoming slaves of America, what path have you adopted, other than torture and humiliation? [passage omitted about following the exalted leader]

Continuing, the speaker added: Before the revolution, due to the situation facing the people, unemployment, emigration, and border problems, mines and foundries were planned in this municipality. [as published]

He then issued memos to the minister of mines and metals and the minister of industries to alleviate the problems of unemployment and emigration, to the minister of petroleum concerning the delivery of natural gas and the procurement of the needed kerosene, to the minister of economic and financial affairs to procure foreign exchange for the sugarcane factory, and to the minister of commerce about building a silo.

Elias Hazrati, Deputy From Rasht

Elias Hazrati, deputy from Rasht, was another pre-agenda speaker. During his talk he said: Since the beginning of the triumph of the Islamic revolution, America has been the number-one enemy of this revolution because of its essential conflict with the Islamic revolution. It adopted a strategy and an effort to overthrow in its dealings with the Islamic revolution, and every moment and every hour of the previous years illustrate this plot.

He said: There may be some who think that America has accepted the realities of the Islamic revolution, that it officially recognizes this revolution and is reconciled with it and that as long as we don't do anything to provoke America, as long as we don't irritate America, as long as we have no plan to provoke America, America will leave us alone. Therefore if we adopt human rights, [Ga'indopol]'s trip, relations with America, economic policies based on the World Bank and along the lines of the IMF, if [Ga'indopol] is able to make reports from Iran and if we can improve the human rights image in Iran in the eyes of Westerners and others, then America will leave us alone.

Continuing, he noted: If we can work with the Gulf Cooperation Council on the basis of mutual understanding with the idea of Iran's national security, and if we try to become a member of that council, then America will leave us alone. [passage omitted]

Events in the last few days have shown that America still has at the top of its agenda a strategy of overthrowing the Islamic revolution of Iran, and it makes every kind of effort from cultural invasion to invisible waves, from sowing discord among supporters and yearners for revolution domestically to making the universities and the seminaries pessimistic. At one point you find someone at the university whose entire effort is aimed at making the students pessimistic about the seminaries and the clergy. Another time you see a movement across the country to question the pure and genuine faces of the Islamic revolution. In the farthest parts of the country, everyone is spreading poison and creating pessimism. A wave of opposition has been created against the prominent people of the Islamic revolution. It is in the context of these same plots that, using the essence of the revolution, internal discord, external pressure with the leverage of human rights and by claims that Iran has become a military power, they have turned the brainless Arab sheykhs against us. If once more the enemy wants to test and get the brainless Arab sheykhs into a war with us [passage omitted: poem]

The deputy from Rasht then discussed the budget for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994]. He said: This year's budget has special characteristics. If, God forbid, we are not careful, if we do not look at the issue from a comprehensive economic vantage point, know for certain that in the course of this the deprived and oppressed people will be hurt.

The said that election interference by the influence of money and some of the nation's executive officials could undermine the image of the elections being popular.

Mohammad Movahed, Deputy From Gachsaran

Mohammad Movahed, deputy from Gachsaran and Kohgiluyeh, was the final speaker at yesterday's open session. His full speech is as follows: [passage omitted about true Islam and political problems throughout the world]

He added: Therefore imperialism, with angry prejudice, has attacked Islamic Iran, which is the center of gravity and the world center of Islamic revolutionary movements, the reviver of divine values and the refuge for liberation movements. This attack is comprehensive and more dangerous than all cultural attacks. Imperialism has understood well that the Muslim people of Iran, and especially the young people of this land, are not that attracted to the bankrupt civilization of production and consumption, and that they are searching for the meaning of life, not in the vulgar misguided cultures of the West, but rather on the king's highway of religion of faith. For this reason, on a broad scale they have set out to eradicate Islamic culture and to belittle culture and tradition. In whatever ways possible, they want to draw the young people of this country aimlesaly towards economy and materialism, and by presenting vulgar models in the form of films, books and magazines, they want to alienate our dear ones from the great and glorious treasures of Islam.

Let us therefore be alert at this sensitive time in history in the trenches of the Majles, which is the place where the exalted values of the eternal mission of humanity arise, where we have gathered as representatives of the people. It is incumbent upon us to think only of the interests of Islam under the cover of the vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult and relying on the principles of the Constitution and precise implementation of the things emphasized by the late Imam and the exalted leader in their discussions, and realizing the aspirations of those great ones.

In discussing the deprivations and shortages in his electoral district, he said: In this time we need the attention and concern of the respected Council of Ministers, the respected speaker of the Majles and the respected deputies.

What you dear ones are seeing and hearing is actually mourning about the social, economic, health care, and educational deprivations in my electoral district, meaning the municipalities of Kohgiluyeh and Gachsaran. It is the mourning of a nation whose only emblem of nobility and pride is national zeal, genuineness, religion, and the masters of chastity and purity. Undoubtedly the attainment of this important thing is due to the vanguard and leading class of society, meaning the area's respected clergy. This is a brief description of the deprivation of a people who still take refuge behind the same general walls of their religion and traditional beliefs and live honorably with them, through their religion still lacks the element of independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence. It is an imperfect image of the miseries of a municipality whose geographical location is still unknown to most Iranians and whose name most of them cannot even pronounce.

These are a people who are apparently equal to others of their kind in terms of disposition and rights, a people who with great concern and few goods, whose faces always show the scars of deprivation, although they participated actively in tests and examinations from higher mountains and from whiter snows, and to confirm this it is enough to say that throughout the years of the sacred defense more than 22 percent of the youth of this land of the brave were active participants at the battle fronts, and according to existing statistics, taking the population into account this area is first among the nation's provinces in this regard. Here I consider it necessary to praise and thank the noble common people, especially the respected families of martyrs, the war wounded and former prisoners of war, for their continuous and active involvement in the nation's external issues, and especially their participation in the elections.

He added: The policy of the deviated Pahlavi regime in this area, for various reasons, was aimed at preserving deprivation, and this meant that the area was kept in an ancient condition of weakness. It was expected, with the turning of the page of history and the rising and shining of the sun of the revolution, that effective steps would be taken to alleviate its deprivation, but the arrival of the imposed war and the economic crises arising from it dampened this expectation. Although it is unfair for us to ignore the reforms and measures taken by the government, the standard of living and the level of incomes of the people of my electoral district, compared to the relative welfare of the people in the nation's other provinces, is not comparable or worth evaluating. If we say that the meaning of life is a matter of degree for some people in that area it would be no exaggeration. It is a municipality with 1,050 villages, almost 70 percent of which lack drinking, 80 percent of which lack electrical power, and 40 percent of which have no connective roads of any kind.

As the deputy for these people, as someone who has perceived and felt their spiritual wounds, and also in accordance with my responsibility, I am determined, as far as possible, to inform the respected Council of Ministers and you respected Majles deputies about some of the area's deprivation, in the hopes that it will focus more attention aimed at alleviating their deprivation.

The leaders of the Islamic government have always emphasized and continue to emphasize that if there is a problem everyone should share it, and if there is welfare, everyone should share that.

Today however, in the midst of disbelief in that part of the country, the women of Il-e Tabi'i, Boyer Ahmadi, Doshman-e Ziyadi and other villages must spend the night until morning waiting beside a spring for water to flow, thanks to the fact that 28 percent of the nation's water springs from the mountains of the province of Kohgiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad. The municipality of Gachsaran procures a great part of the oil extracted in this country, and it is appropriate here and now that I praise and thank all the cadres and noble and toiling personnel in the petroleum industry, especially the dear ones who worked sincerely to advance the sacred goals of the government of the Islamic Republic in the deprived Gachsaran area, despite the dangers from the enemy aerial bombings and the loss of several martyrs and wounded.

Certainly, however touched and sad the awakened conscience will be at seeing the deep deprivation in the areas of Baba Kolan and Pichab ba Masht and the Dil area of the municipality of Gachsaran, and Tasuj Jaram, and the unfortunate situation in the Posteh Zila'i and Sadat Sarfarib areas, the most important problem in my electoral district and in the province in general is the problem of roads. It can truly be said that the province, and especially in my electoral district, is at a real dead-end with regard to connective roads to the nation's other provinces. In this regard, expedited construction of the Behbehan -Shahreza road can bring the province out of its complete isolation.

After the problem of roads, the shortages and problems in my electoral district are, in order or priority, the severe shortage of potable water, health care resources and treatment clinics, laboratories, specialist cadres and physicians, the shortage of classroom space in all phases of education and training, the shortage of agricultural machinery, the lack of attention to the region's animal husbandry in view of the fact that the province has been recognized as one of the nation's animal husbandry centers, the shortage of organizational houses for government workers, the absence of teacher colleges and girls' teacher training centers, and in general the absence of academies and other branches of higher education, the inability of government workers to pay the heavy costs of the residential housing belonging to the Housing Foundation in the municipalities of Gachsaran and Kohgiliyeh, and also for the Ministry of Education and Training to pay the difference in wages on teacher loans, the shortage of sports facilities and inattention to the needs of the region's youth.

The low quality of the programming on television networks one and two adds to the problems in the province. They expressed regret about the political factionalism and weak management in some of the province's executive organizations and failed to support some active managers, who worked with the people's movement sincerely and with few possessions, and sometimes the television networks gave unwarranted support to incompetent individuals in their quest for sensitive responsibilities in the area, to the point that there was no opportunity to deal with the province's important concerns. Otherwise, why would the province's native students in the universities and other centers of higher education be studying under the worst conditions due to their financial poverty, while some who were clever enough to get province scholarships shed crocodile dears at press conferences about saving the province?

In view of the clear emphasis by His Holiness the Imam, the exalted leader and the respected president of the republic on alleviating deprivation, I expect the toiling government and the respected deputies, in view of the budget submitted for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994], to take the necessary steps as they continue their policy-making, especially in the second Five-Year Plan, to create more infrastructure projects than ever in the areas of agriculture and industry and in employment-creating development projects, for the purpose of hiring and employing specialist manpower and other unemployed people who are now laboring in neighboring provinces under the worst conditions to earn a living.

In short, I see that the solution and the cure for many problems depends on the special attention and concern of the exalted leader and the respected president of the republic, and I hope that in the near future the yearning people of the province of Kohgiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad, like the people in the nation's other provinces, will find those two dear ones making personal appearances in their midst. Certainly, visits to the area by the respected ministers to identify problems is especially important. I consider it necessary to thank the respected ministers who have come to the area at the invitation of the province's deputies, and in conclusion I ask them to keep the promise they made to bring about the happiness of the people.

Supporters, Opponents Speak on Proposal To Change the Name of Bakhtaran Province to Kermanshahan

Supporters:

It is the will of the people to change the name to Kermanshahan

The word 'shah' in Kermanshah is 'sham', not 'shah'

Do not confuse the name Kermanshah with monarchy

Opponents:

Changing the name will cost money

The name is now Bakhtaran Province and there is no province

Removing the name Bakhtaran will mean removing the whole war and the crusade, and their memories

Government representative: For the government, the name Bakhtaran is equal to the name Kermanshahan

Government representative's comments: [passage omitted on pros and cons of changing Bakhteran back to Kermanshah]

Commission Chairman Speaks

Movahedi-Saveji, chairman of the Commission on Councils and Domestic Affairs, gave a talk as chairman of the commission. He said:

The reason the commission voted against the proposal at first and then voted for it is that something came to the attention of one of the respected deputies on the commission that made him think that the exalted leader was opposed to changing the name Bakhteran, and that he did not think it proper to change the name Bakhteran to Kermanshah. They say something was reported in the commission and this caused a majority of the respected members to take the view that the issue should be considered again. We told a respected official who is trusted by the Majles and is one of the true friends of the exalted leader that such a thing has been said, and that if he could discuss this subject with the exalted leader, we would obey whatever he says. The next Monday he asked the exalted leader about this matter and asked him to clarify this for us. This is what he said: "No one should attribute either view to me, neither Bakhteran nor Kermanshah. In my view there is no difference between these two names." He wrote the same thing he said verbally at the bottom of a letter to the clergymen of Bakhteran.

Movahedi-Saveji then added: Some of the deputies said that he told us not to quarrel. Yes, I also say that he said not to quarrel. I am not quarreling. The respected deputies who discussed this matter were not quarreling. This is a debate.

He said: It is possible that the name of this province could be something else, and if the general form of the bill is approved, there is no obstacle to discussing it and approving it in the second commission consultation, or even if the commission does not vote for it, the respected deputies can make a proposal and the Majles can vote.

Movahedi-Saveji also said: This name (Kermanshah) is not in violation of religious law or the Constitution, and it is not in conflict with the culture of the revolution.

After the talk by the commission representative, the motion to change the name was put to a vote and approved.

Legal Motion for Student Welfare Fund

The final item on the agenda was the report from the first consultation of the Joint Commission on Higher Education and Public Health concerning the legal motion for the Student Welfare Fund, which was approved by the Majles in its general form.

Article 1 of this motion says: To create suitable conditions for the growth of talents and to help conditions for studying and living for the nation's talented and poor students a fund will be created in the Ministries of Culture and Higher Education and in the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment and Medical Education, to be called the "Student Welfare Fund" and referred to hereafter in this law as the Fund.

Based on Article 2 as proposed by the joint commission, the Fund's goals will be the following: 1 - Providing help with educational expenses. Its general form was approved by the Majles. [as published]

Article 1 of this motion says: To create suitable conditions for the growth of talents and to help conditions for studying and living for the nation's talented and poor students a fund will be created in the Ministries of Culture and Higher Education and in the Ministry of Health Care, Treatment and Medical Education, to be called the "Student Welfare Fund" and referred to hereafter in this law as the Fund.

Based on Article 2 as proposed by the joint commission, the fund's goals will be the following:
1 - Providing help with educational expenses.
2 - Providing marriage loans to students who marry while studying.
3 - Providing loans in other necessary areas.

Likewise, Article 3 says: The fund's budget in the two ministries will be procured through government assistance, means provided by the banking system, revenues obtained through investment of the fund's surplus cash, aid and guidance from real and legal persons, funds obtained from debtor installment payments, and student dormitory rentals.

Majles Notes

The first vote on the law to change the name of Bakhteran Province to Kermanshahan failed for various reasons and the speaker of the Majles announced that the voting must be done by signed paper ballots. This was done and it passed with 121 votes in favor.

The discussion, study and speeches of opponents and supporters of the law to change the name of Bakhteran Province to Kermanshahan caused a particular commotion among the spectators. One spectator rose from his seat with the intention of expressing an opinion. Mr. Nateq-Nuri addressed him, saying: Based on Majles internal guidelines, you do not have the right to speak and you cannot express an opinion about Majles proceedings. You may only submit your views later to the Majles in writing.

*** 30 Dec**

93AS0407A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 31 Dec 92 pp 5, 13

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. Yesterday the Majles met chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Nateq-Nuri and deputies Kiani, Shayesteh, Sa'idi and Mohammadifar from the Falavarjan, Golpayegan, Khansar, Minudasht and Sonqor-e

Kolya'i electoral districts gave speeches. Then the Majles took up its agenda. The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the Motion To Prohibit the Taking of a Percentage in Foreign Transactions, which was approved as an urgent motion. The next item on the agenda was the bill to amend Notes 44 and 45 of the First Economic, Social and Cultural Development Law, the general form of which was also approved by the deputies.

The final item on the agenda was the Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children, continued consideration of which was deferred to the next session. We now direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the detailed proceedings of the Majles.

Hoseyn Kiani, Deputy From Falavarjan

We must realize that we will not have economic development in our country unless we have agricultural growth. [passage omitted on U.S. evil activities]

He then addressed the sheykhs of the Persian Gulf. He said: Right under your noses you have witnessed the slaughter and homelessness of the Muslim nation of Palestine. What profit have you gained up to now from these anti-Islamic actions and from this servitude to America, other than shame, humiliation and corruption, other than losing the honor, glory and capital of your own nation? Haven't the experiences of several years and helping Saddam in the war with Iran awakened you? Have you forgotten the oil war, at a time when as the result of Iraq's fires you were all weak, helpless, humiliated and needy? During that difficult time it was Islamic Iran that overlooked your past and treated you with complete kindness and friendship while condemning the aggressor. It seems that you cannot distinguish between friend and foe. As the speaker of the Majles said, you have your heads in the sand, thinking that no one sees you. Your empty, worthless claim to Abu Musa Island shows your brainlessness and your prostituted servitude to America. Didn't you see that Saddam got caught in the quagmire of the war with Iran? He is still caught in the mud and mire and will remain there until he dies.

Continuing, the speaker added: Come and let us live together with honor and pride. There are more than 1 billion Muslims in the world, and with all this capital, the world of imperialism needs us.

Continuing, Kiani discussed the demand by the majority of the people for a solution to the high prices and inflation in society. He said: With thousands of hopes and with their votes the people placed this heavy burden of deputyship on each of our shoulders. Now tell me what has happened? Once more their eyes are fixed on the Majles and the deputies with disappointment. Don't let these hopes turn into disappointment, for it is an unforgivable sin to disappoint the people. Now that there is talk of an open economy, economic adjustment, and floating foreign exchange and officials are working to build a prosperous and free Iran with an Islamic culture and a correct and sound economy, and this is also accepted by everyone, there are several necessary points:

1. Rates are determined by supply and demand, and the necessity is greater for labor and production to be cheap. We must therefore create in society more of a culture of labor and higher production.

2. Pointless expenditures, needless ceremony, foreign and even domestic travel, useless seminars, conferences and gatherings, and fancy trappings must be stopped. Foreign and domestic trade must be taken out of the organizations and ministries.

In conclusion the speaker mentioned the arrival of the birth anniversary of His Holiness Amir (peace be upon him), and he proposed that this day be named "Learned Men" day.

He also asked the president of the republic to visit the municipality of Falavarjan on his next trip to Esfahan Province.

Morteza Shayesteh, Deputy From Golpayegan and Khansar

Morteza Shayesteh, deputy from Golpayegan and Khansar, was the next pre-agenda speaker. During his talk he condemned the crimes of the Serbs in slaughtering the Muslims of Bosnia-Hercegovina, as well as the slaughter of the Palestinians. He said: Once more the evil voice of American imperialism is coming from the mouths of its lackeys in the Gulf Cooperation Council, but they must realize that all of these evil tunes and this expansionist planning will not have the slightest effect on the iron will of the martyr-nurturing nation of Islamic Iran, and all their plans will be thwarted.

With reference to economic matters, he said: Now that the Majles is intensely studying the Budget Bill for the year 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994], and will in the near future be studying the government's second Five-Year Plan, it must pay special attention to population growth in the world and in our own country and the shortage of food, because population growth is much greater in the developing nations than in the developed nations, and by the year 2000, of 6.1 billion people in the world, 4.8 billion will be in the developing nations.

World statistics show that in international trade, agricultural crops are not profitable for the developing nations. These countries will become more needy every day, so that the share of these nations in the export of agricultural crops was 44 percent in 1960, and had dropped to 30 percent in 1980. Of the 10 important nations exporting agricultural crops, only Brazil and Argentina are among the developing nations. According to a FAO [Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations] report, currently in the world about 500 million people in the developing nations are suffering from malnutrition. This results in the deaths of about half of the children before they reach elementary school age and

in these conditions, in the year 1390 [21 Mar 2011-20 Marc2012] our nation's population will be more than 100 million.

He then emphasized: We must realize that we will not have economic development in our country unless we have agricultural growth. Unfortunately, however, in the first Five-Year Plan the government paid the least attention to agriculture.

He discussed the problem of rural emigration to the cities. He said: A codified plan has not been presented for this great problem. We must say that if for example 50,000 rials is necessary to maintain the residence of a rural family, it should be spent. If timely action is not taken, several times that amount will have to be spent in their new place of emigration. In my view, we have no problems in agriculture and in the matter of production, but the major problems overtaking the agricultural sector come after production. Unfortunately, in the Budget Bill for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994] there is only 14-percent growth in the agricultural sector, yet the export share of the agricultural sector in the year 1370 [21 Mar 1991-20 Mar 1992] was 28 percent. As an agricultural expert, I say that the foundation and basis of agricultural development rests on the three pillars of research, education, and promotion.

He continued: I must thank Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani for his announced policies on the purchase of agricultural crops at at least the world rate in addition to freight costs and a reasonable profit. In addition to the above points, in the second Five-Year Plan attention must be given to an accurate statistic, and policy must be based on a just income distribution model, and likewise that model must take regional production into account.

Shayesteh then discussed the antiquity of his electoral district's municipality and its rich culture. He said: Unfortunately, for several years only one university, Payam-e Nur, has been operating here and there are no centers of higher education there. For years a sign proclaiming the medical college and the agricultural academy has been in place, but despite repeated follow-ups, no credit has been provided for farmers and another installation has been forbidden. Most of the large and small industries in the countries have been allocated to several cities, which has caused problems for the officials and the people of the area.

Sani Sa'idi, Deputy From Minudasht

Isn't it better if we make a decisive decision to eliminate the problems of the people, and foremost among them high prices?

The third pre-agenda speaker was Sani Sa'idi, deputy from Minudasht. During his talk he said: While the world of Islam is now relentlessly subjected to the old divide and conquer trick of world imperialism, one day in Lebanon, one day in India, another day in Afghanistan and then in other Muslim nations, praise God, following the thoughts of the thinkers who founded the Islamic Republic of Iran, who say that there is no difference between Shi'ites and Sunnis, just as the zealous people of Iran, Shi'ite and Sunni alike, fought for eight years side by side in the sacred defense against the aggression of the Ba'thist regime and in defense of the gains of the revolution and the territorial integrity of their Islamic nation, the nations of the Persian Gulf must realize that the Muslim people of Iran, Shi'ite and Sunni alike, whether Persian, Turk, Turkman, Kurd, Baluchi or Arab, will all join hands to defend the soil of their Islamic land with all their might against any kind of foreign plot.

The speaker discussed next year's budget bill. He said: Under current circumstances, isn't it better if we make a decisive decision to eliminate the problems of the people, foremost among them high prices? We must think about procuring large budgets for carrying out infrastructure work in our electoral districts, just as each of the ministries uses technical and economic justifications in seeking to acquire more money for its current expense and development budgets.

Isn't it better if we give a general social and political justification for the government and for solving the general problems of the people, especially the deprived? Let's see into which sector we ought to divert the budget's vital artery so that the country will not suffer irreparable damage.

He continued: We have established a strong standard for crops, services and other things. Let us also establish a governor general's law for manpower. Let's release the restraints on increased university student admissions and seek to improve the quality of educational and research services and the welfare of all students and professors.

To control the population growth rate in the real sense and not just with words is to control the quality of education and supervision over the management of current managers and protecting the manpower standard. More than anything else, our country now needs careful and concerned management. It will not be easy to solve public problems without eliminating large unnecessary new or currently under construction projects.

In discussing the problems in his electoral district, Sani Sa'idi noted that the municipality of Minudasht joins the three provinces of Khorasan, Mazandaran and Semnan, and most important, it shares a border with the Republic of Turkmenistan. It has four districts, 12 rural areas and 382 villages. He said: The agricultural sector is in a very good condition, with the cultivation of 122.8 hectares of such crops as wheat, barley, cotton, rice and sunflowers and the production of 150,000 tons of wheat this year alone. It is also the leading municipality in Iran for the production of tobacco.

In the animal husbandry sector it has 810,000 head of livestock, and in addition to that can be added 600,000 head of tribal livestock. It produces about 700,000 kg of wool per year and 30,000 kg of milk per day, and in the

area of handicraft industries, in producing about 365,000 kg of silk cocoons it is first in the province and second in the nation.

Cultural, political, economic and social poverty have long prevailed in this municipality. Currently also, unfortunately, due to the depth of the deprivation and the evil effects remaining from the time of the idolaters, and due to the attractiveness of its agriculture, its population is rapidly growing. Population growth in some places is as high as 8.5 percent per year. Despite the capabilities mentioned, the municipality of Minudasht has no university, college, or even school of higher learning of any kind, and it does not have a single hospital bed. Yet in some areas within 50 kme, in two different cities there are two colleges of medical sciences. This municipality does not have any kind of large industrial project, yet some cities, for whatever reason, are so saturated with factories and industrial installations that now huge costs will have to be incurred to alleviate the air pollution.

Continuing his talk, the deputy from Minudasht praised the government for its concern for the deprived areas. He said: In view of the potential resources at Kalaleh airport, such as its 2.5-km beltway and transferred installations and lands worth a total of about 5 billion rials in capital, and likewise with regard to the Gorgan to Gonbad and Minudasht railroad administration, in view of the lack of need to build large tunnels and bridges along this route, I expect more attention to improving air and land connections in East Mazandaran, and also that the severe deprivation of rural roads will be eliminated.

Continuing, he added: It has been about 13 years since the approval of the Law Transferring the Revolutionary Council's Lands under Temporary Cultivation and the Majles amendments, but there is still no cooperation to be seen between the Land Transfer Council and the court. I therefore plead with the respected president of the republic to help as soon as possible to solve the perpetual problem between the farmers and the former land grabbers.

At the end of his talk, the deputy from Minudasht emphasized the procurement of silos and mechanized warehouses by the National Grain Organization, study of the reservoir dam by the Ministry of Power, and continued consideration of the creation of an agricultural college in the municipality of Minudasht by the appropriate officials.

Barat'ali Mohammadifar, Deputy From Sonqor-e Kolya'i

Barat'ali Mohammadifar, deputy from Sonqor-e Kolya'i, was the final pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's session. In a short speech addressed to the Majles, he said: You are the representatives of a nation that thinks of nothing but great Islam and divine and Islamic justice. You were elected to establish Islamic justice. You were forgotten and isolated. World imperialism and its agents humiliated and weakened you. These barefoot people rose up and raised you from abject isolation to the duties and responsibilities of deputies.

It is now your turn to show how you will act with these deprived and oppressed people, and what services you will provide to them.

You must work to see that a significant budget is allocated to the deprived and oppressed areas throughout Islamic Iran and, with effort and activity towards proper planning of the budget for 1372, you must save the oppressed and deprived people from the malfunctioning economic situation. You must find a cure for this devastating pain. You must strive with all your ability in designing the second Five-Year Plan to think of effective and useful measures to overcome deprivation and provide them with a dignified and honorable life, to solve the economic problems of the people and to create an opening in their lives, because the oppressed are tormented, laboring and active people, skilled, hard working, loyal and serving who do not permit themselves the slightest pride or arrogance. They are the best and purest servants of God. It is for these very reasons and social and human characteristics that the oppressed person has found a sacred place in Islam and the Koran and is praised and shown favor by Islam. Our late Imam (peace be upon him) considers one hair of an oppressed person living in a shack to be more valuable than all the people living in palaces. For that reason the exalted leader of the Islamic revolution has charged the Majles deputies with attending to the condition of the deprived and the oppressed and with solving their issues and problems.

He added: The problem of unemployment and lack of employment is one of the most sensitive and important topics now being faced by the sacred government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. I plead with the respected officials to carry out deep and comprehensive studies to solve this social problem as much as possible.

Concerning the problems in the offices, the speaker said: The great people, with their concern for the revolution, spend hours and even days waiting behind closed doors for one signature. However, many officials in society will not recognize the problems of the people until they themselves get personally and directly involved with the complexities of the offices, organizations, ministries and institutions, until they come into close contact with crippling regulations, or until they are caught in the vice of bank and administrative regulations.

At the end of his remarks, he praised the supporters and opponents of the motion to change the name of the Province of Bakhteran and said: I hope that everyone will stand united behind the exalted leader, obeying his orders completely, prove their adherence to the viceregency of the chief jurisconsult, and that we will work as brothers to rebuild the Province of Kermanshahan.

Legislation

Motion To Prohibit the Taking of a Percentage in Foreign Transactions

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the Motion To Prohibit the Taking of a Percentage in Foreign Transactions, which was presented as an urgent motion.

Rahim, in discussing the motion's urgent status, said: In foreign purchases done by government staff and experts, there is a term used in foreign trade called "percentage," and this very percentage has caused corruption in transactions and huge abuses. Some of the gentlemen who enter into foreign transactions and huge contracts take a percentage. They take a percentage of the total amount of the transaction, and this is against the law and against religious law. Under the nation's current regulations, when the organization involved realizes that the aforementioned person has committed a huge abuse, it complains to the judiciary, and the judge is unable to pursue the matter because of the lack of a law.

He then added: We have recently noticed that when the prosecutor issues an order prohibiting prosecution on about 150 million tomans, the reason is that in this country this act is not regarded as illegal or a crime.

Rahimi then added: The nation's officials consider this act a violation. When we went to the exalted leader, His Excellency also mentioned this point. There are now enormous figures and numbers which we cannot prosecute. Therefore, in order to prevent this huge abuse, we have presented a motion with urgent status whose every dimension has been studied in commission.

'Ali Akbar Hoseyni, deputy from Tehran, spoke in opposition to the motion's urgent status. He said: I am not opposed to the principle, but I am opposed to the method. All foreign companies and factories have this in their working procedures and they pay this money. If we approve this law and change the way we do things, it will damage the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is better to think of a way to make this profitable for the government, so that the money will be collected, and an individual will not receive it. I therefore propose a change in the motion so that this issue will be included.

Movahedi-Saveji said in support of the motion: It seems that Mr. Hoseyni is not in favor of urgent status. Among the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran who have gone to make foreign purchases since the Islamic revolution are believing, committed and revolutionary people, who took all aspects of the nation's and the country's interest into consideration. At the same time if a percentage was paid, they turned that exact amount over to the public treasury and the government organization. Of course these people might not be more tha.. five percent of the total.

He then added: If someone goes as a purchase agent and does not take the interest of the government into consideration, and damages the interest of the the public treasury of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the making of a purchase, I consider it unlikely that this person would not have been a criminal up to now under our laws.

In conclusion, Movahedi-Saveji said: We must approve the bill's urgent status so that the commission and the deputies can give their views on the details later.

After Mr. Movahedi's remarks, the urgent status of the motion was put to a vote and approved.

Bill To Amend Notes 44 and 45 of the First Economic, Social and Cultural Development Law

The next item on the agenda was the Bill To Amend Notes 44 and 45 of the First Economic, Social and Cultural Development Law of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the general form of which was approved by the deputies.

The commission expert gave a talk discussing the bill. He said: Note 44 of the first Five-Year Plan Law is about faculty members who return to the country from abroad wishing to serve in the universities. The government has provided them with means enabling them to bring their travel (living) possessions to Iran without paying customs levies and taxes.

Note 45 says that university faculty members have true priority for housing and that the government must find housing for them. However, in the writing of these two paragraphs only the point "government names" was mentioned, and no mention was made of nongovernment universities. This means that faculty members who want to serve in nongovernment universities are effectively barred from this benefit, or they face problems. Second, a duality is created between faculty members of government and nongovernment universities.

He then added: Our educational system has effectively been divided into two parts, government higher education and no-government higher education. The most important of these nongovernment universities is the Free Islamic University.

The commission expert added: If we are going to approve the activity of nongovernment universities, we must provide the same resources to the faculty of nongovernment universities that we provide to the faculty of government universities.

Speaking as the government's representative, 'Ata'ollah Mohajerati said concerning this bill: Concerning the participation of the public sector in the management of universities and the establishment of universities, theoretically there is almost no serious opposition in the country. In practice as well, both have had successful experiences (the Free Islamic University and Imam Sadeq University). They are the best evidence that one's resources must be used to develop higher education. Concerning the fact that the necessary incentives and

resources must be provided in the nongovernment sector so that public investment will find its way there, naturally we must help the managers who run these units. We must not expect that the nongovernment universities in the country will develop and take on a heavy higher education load, but the concessions and resources available to the government must be allocated to them.

Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining To Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children

The last item on the agenda was the Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining To Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children, whose continued consideration was postponed to the next session.

Based on Article 1 of the bill: "As of one year from the date of this law's enactment, none of the benefits that are provided in laws and are based on the number of children or family members will be accountable or applied for the fourth child and subsequent children, and children born up to the aforementioned date will be eligible for the established benefits as before.

Paragraph 1, Note 1 says: Pregnancy leaves for women will be deducted from the worker's existing and future entitled leave time for the fourth child and subsequent children born after one year from the date of this law's enactment.

Likewise, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of this law say that the child-care center and insurance costs of caring for the fourth and subsequent children born after one year from the date of this law's enactment to women workers will be borne by the worker.

Views of Opponents and Supporters of Providing Means to Nongovernment Universities

Opponents

Fattahi, Deputy From Mashhad

If the means received by faculty members of government universities are also to be provided to nongovernment universities, what kind of supervision will the government exercise? What concessions will they give to the government in return for the government giving them these concessions?

Akrami, Deputy From Semnan

How much means have you provided to the government universities so far, that you now want to give to the nongovernment universities? How successful have you been so far in hiring graduates from outside the country? Let the government give us a report on how successful it has been with Notes 44 and 45.

Nowruzi, Deputy From Molayer

By hooking their umbilical cords to the nation's public resources and the financial means of the public budget, we will in effect make government universities of the Free Islamic University, Imam Sadeq (peace be upon him) University, and any other university that is managed by public means. The concern is that these means and expectations may become so vast that we will be unable to meet them.

Amir Shaqaqi, Deputy From Tabriz

I am not opposed to nongovernment faculty receiving means and serving. I am opposed to the idea that there is no difference between a doctor who served during the war in the tents, on the front lines and in the hospitals, and a faculty member who wants to come in from abroad and serve. If they go they should not receive these resources.

Soleimani, Deputy From Kangavar

Because in Note 44 there is no difference between government and nongovernment in customs exemptions, and likewise in Note 45 land and construction materials have been deregulated by the government, and housing is also built in deregulated form, presenting this bill at this time is just a waste of the Majles's time. There there is nothing to be gained by approving this bill other than wasting time.

Supporters

Movahedi-Saveji, Deputy From Tehran

If graduates want to come and serve in the nongovernment universities and receive means as they do in the government universities, they say don't give means to them, what are you talking about? The government's policy has been and is to recruit graduates from abroad, and not for any particular organization.

Zare', Deputy From Shiraz

With help from the people, we must solve the problems of higher education and the academic mobilization, an example of which is the nongovernment (nonprofit) universities. Let the deputies, with their decisive votes, show that we want to solve the problems of higher education with public assistance.

Kuhkan, Deputy From Lanjan

If we provide resources only to the government apparatus and we deprive the nongovernment apparatus, what incentive will there be? If our motivation is to give any help we can to the Free University, toe to toe with the government universities, a better atmosphere will be prepared so that more children of Islam and this land will receive higher education.

Shahriari, Deputy From Kangan

Is it a mistake for the government to give a concession to nongovernment professors that it also gives to the professors of government universities? Let them give equal concessions to these professors. The nongovernment

universities are not competing with the government universities, they complement each other.

Nowbakht, Deputy From Tehran

There is a misconception regarding the private and government status of our universities. It is not an Islamic concept that our universities are either absolutely government or absolutely private. If a university is a government university, it cannot have public participation, and if it is private then it will receive absolutely no help from the government. When through this bill the government wants to help, why do some of us want to put the cart before the horse?

• 3 Jan

934S0410A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 4 Jan 93 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. Yesterday the Majles met in open session. At this session the deputies from Khomein and Mahshahr gave speeches and then the Majles took up its agenda and approved the Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining To Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children and the Motion To Amend Note 4, Article 59 of the Public Accounting Law. We direct your attention to the full proceedings.

Mohammad Baqer Tavakoli, Deputy From Khomein

The Majles must work actively to eliminate the culture of ostentation, waste, and dissipation in the government organizations.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Mohammad Baqer Tavakoli, deputy from Khomein. [passage omitted on U.S. evil activities]

The speaker discussed the Budget for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994]. He said: The most important issue of the day is the cultural invasion. Although the exalted leader has repeatedly issued reminders expressed in various ways, unfortunately in our practical confrontations with it we have confined ourselves to slogans. Don't you want to stop the vidros, vulgar pictures, obscene films, and satellites before they invade our every family foundation? This demands that the government and the Majles rise in opposition to these things through proper and fundamental planning and by allocating heavy credits for the preparation of various kinds of video and cinema films, the development of cultural and sports centers, and the allocation of a budget for the marriage of youth.

He said: Today the superpowers and the advanced nations, using their high technology, are increasing their production in the agricultural sector day by day, and they are using this as a political and military lever against the people of the world and their governments. Therefore, in view of our 2.8-percent population growth and its disproportion with the growth in agricultural crops, it is necessary that we stop the uncontrolled emigration of rural people to the cities with careful and calculated planning. The most important causes of the emigration are the lack of incomes in the rural areas due to the lack of employment in the rural off-season, the lack of suitable rural roads, and the shortage of rural and potable water. The government should give top priority to building small projects that give a quick return and create employment in the rural areas, to raising the agricultural research budget, collecting water with small and large dams, leveling lands and mechanizing agriculture, centralization in the large villages and providing them with more facilities and services, insuring agricultural crops and buying them in time at guaranteed production cost prices, eliminating administrative bureaucracy in paying for the crops purchased, timely exports of crops in excess of public need and expanding social security insurance in the rural areas and providing them with official coverage, so that these dear ones will be able to have unemployment and disability insurance, with confidence in a more productive future with less dependence.

He said that one necessity is to establish a uniform foreign exchange rate. He said: If this is done along with economic adjustment, it might create malfunctions in various sectors. It is therefore necessary that more care be exercised in this economic surgery. The people, who are the only support of the government and our vice-regent, must not be beset with problems.

We must take a realistic view as we prepare the 1372 Budget, and we must align expenditures with real revenues. We must not repeat the problems caused this year by not allocating eight percent for current expenses and 20 percent for development, and the Majles must make its system of supervision conform to the Constitution based on the part that deals with the glorious Koran in order to eliminate ostentation, waste, and dissipation and deal actively with the government organizations, and it must itself earn the confidence of the people by living simply.

Tavakoli then discussed his own electoral district, the birthplace of His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him). He said: It is necessary to give special attention to Khomein in matters of development, education, and higher education.

He thanked the people of his electoral district for taking part in the elections, and he invited the president of the republic to come to this city.

The deputy from Khomeyn asked for help and cooperation from the Ministry of Roads and Transportation in the construction of the Khomein-Mahallat road projects, from the Ministry of Health, Health Care and Medical Education in the sending of various specialists to Khomein Hospital, from the Ministry of Agriculture for the start of a bean research center in Khorramdasht, from the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education for the creation of International Imam Khomeini University, from the Ministry of Petroleum for the completion of the city's gas delivery project, from the Ministry of

Guidance for the preparation of films that reflect the problems of urban life, and from the Social Security Organization concerning the construction of a 126-bed Hospital in Khomein.

Daneshyar, Deputy From Mahshahr

In view of the high prices, inflation, and unemployment arising from the plots of enemies and the unwise policies of some West-struck economic managers, we are in need of well-planned effort to establish an Islamic economy.

He added: In order to assist these dear people, it is necessary to possess national determination and the cooperation of ministries and executive organizations. Furthermore, the failure of executive organizations to deal with and cooperate with these people, are among unforgivable violations, and they are held accountable before the Glorious God and the Law of Islam.

Continuing, he said: In view of the high prices, inflation, and unemployment arising from the plots of enemies, economic embargoes, the imposed war, the consequences of the imperialist policies of the last century, and likewise the unwise policies of some West-struck economic managers, we are in need of well-planned effort to establish an Islamic economy in order to answer the economic needs of today's world. I therefore beg the respected Society of Seminary Teachers and the seminaries to give special and quick attention to this important matter.

He added: It is clear that delay in the formation of an Islamic society will lead to the continuation of the Western economic policies of some of the nation's economic planners, and this will threaten the nation's security.

The deputy from Mahshahr said that the move to consolidate the ministries of Industries, Heavy Industry and Mines and Metal is a useful and constructive way to reform the administrative system and the unity of industrial management, prevent duplicated effort and reduce the number of government personnel. He proposed merging the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Urban Construction into the Ministry of the Interior, and he said that the move to merge the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education is against the interest of the government.

He likewise said: The move to consolidate the Ministry of the Reconstruction Crusade and the Ministry of Agriculture is not in the interest of the government, because this will lead to the neglect of rural development and prosperity, and will ultimately cause more rural emigration to the cities, increasing the bad consequences of emigration. Likewise, it will dissipate one of the sacred revolutionary organizations and scatter its sincere and revolutionary forces, and this is a disaster.

He discussed the problems and difficulties of the province of Khuzestan. He said: Due to the backwardness caused by the eight years of imposed war and the slowness or stoppage of most measures towards development and prosperity, the noble and Muslim people in the heroic province of Khuzestan are faced with many problems due to the lack of welfare resources and urban services, the shortage of transportation and shipping and health care and treatment, and especially the unemployment and employment. In this regard, to make up for the backwardness, this province is in need of special attention from the respected government. I therefore propose that the respected Council of Ministers meet several times in Khuzestan to study the problems and difficulties and to offer a solution.

Continuing his remarks, Kamal Daneshyar praised the government's measures to carry out important national projects in the province of Khuzestan. He said: The effects of the inflation and high prices arising from the increased consumer market and the loss of resources in the province are worthy of reflection and study during the implementation of these great projects, which have great national benefit, because a huge amount of road, transportation, health care and treatment, cultural and educational resources and basic goods are allocated to them, and ultimately they exacerbate the shortage of resources and the existing inflation. I therefore recommend to the respected government that it give the necessary attention, as it implements the large national projects, to the development of infrastructure resources and services.

He added: In the province of Khuzestan the elimination or failure to employ sincere forces with long experience and good records who follow the vice-regency of the chief jurisconsult is continuing, and it appears that the province management, by prior plan, intends to eliminate existing manpower and to employ forces with little experience who are not familiar with the culture and problems of the region. It is clear that the use of committed, believing and strong brothers in the province is a display of confidence in manpower, and ultimately in the region's growth and development.

The deputy from Mahshahr discussed the problems in his electoral district, noting that there are about 12,000 war refugees in this area. He said: In the last 10 years these dear ones have used urban resources and services, and the existing health care and treatment facilities. They are therefore living in unfavorable circumstances, and apart from that the local residents are also faced with a shortage of resources. He also discussed the need for attention to the many problems of the hard-working fishermen in Mahshahr, Hendijan, Shahrak-e Taleqani and Bandar Emam by the National Fisheries Organization; the need to provide financial means in the Hendijan Customs Office and to issue authorization for customs activities by the national chief of customs; the need to create the 1,000-number telephone center in Miankuh; the 1,000-number center in Amidieh and the 1,000-number center in Shahrak-Taleqani; and the need

to develop the telephone systems in Hendijan, Mahshahr, and Bandar Emam by the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone; the need to build the Hendijan-Mahshahr road and the highway from Bandar Emam to Sarbandar; the need to build the two-line railroad from Bandar Emam to Ahvaz and the Mahshahr beltway by the Ministry of Roads and Transportation; and he called for the implementation of these measures.

In conclusion, Kamal Daneshyar called for the elimination of the problems with sports and for the creation of sports facilities by the National Physical Education Organization; for more protection for teacher consumer and housing cooperatives in areas of Mahshahr, Hendijan, Amidieh, and Bandar Emam by the Ministry of Education and Training; the construction of the gas pipeline networks in Bandar Emam, Sarbandar, and Hendijan and the development of the gas pipeline networks in Mahshahr and Amidieh by the Ministry of Petroleum; the implementation of the flood control project by the Ministry of Agriculture; the creation of green space and increasing the means of urban transportation; financial assistance to the Mahshahr mayor's office; the establishment of a bus company in Mahshahr and Bandar Emam,;the establishment of a mayor's office in Shahrak-e Taleqani by the Ministry of the Interior; and the completion of Mahshahr Hospital and Amidieh Hospital; and the construction of Bandar Emam Hospital by the Social Security Organization.

Legislation

Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining To Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the report from the first consultation of the Public Health and Welfare Commission on the Bill To Amend the Laws Pertaining To Providing Benefits Based on the Number of Children, and after study and discussion by the deputies, the general form of the motion was put to a vote and approved.

Article 1 of this motion says: "As of one year from the date of this law's enactment, none of the benefits, which are provided in laws and are based on the number of children or family members, will be accountable or applied for the fourth and subsequent children, and children born up to the aforementioned date will be eligible for the established benefits as before."

Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this law provides that maternity leaves for women, and child-care centers and insurance costs of caring for the fourth and subsequent children born after one year from the date of this law's enactment to women workers will be the responsibility of the worker.

Rejection of Motion To Amend Note 4, Article 95 of the National Public Accounting Law

The first actionof the Majles Accounting, Budget Affairs and Financial Affairs Commission concerning the rejection of the Motion To Amend Note 4, Article 95 of the National Public Accounting Law, and after discussion and study by the deputies, the general form of the motion was put to a vote and approved.

Article 1 of this motion says: Note 4, Article 95 of the National Public Accounting Law was amended as follows:

Note 4: To remove the existing obstacles to the compilation of annual accounts and ledgers in the national budget, a three-person council will be formed composed of representatives of the Majles, the National Accounting Court, and the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs for the purpose of deciding what to do about deficient annual documents (since the year 1353 [21 Mar 1974-20 Mar 1975]), denominated paper and the existing funds in the ministries and government institutions and companies (with regard to the development credits they use from the government's public budget), which were lost or burned and destroyed by incidents caused by the splendid Islamic revolution, the imposed war and other unexpected events, and in general to alleviate the other problems that exist in writing the accounts of the above organizations and writing ledgers on the performance of the annual national budget and to make the necessary decisions. The majority decisions of this council will be final and binding. These decisions, however, which are solely for the annual review of the national budget, will not prevent the legal prosecution of violators when necessary, and if it sees any kind of violations the council will report the incidents to the appropriate legal authorities. The guidelines for this note will be written and implemented jointly by the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs and the National Accounting Court.

Among the reasons for the rejection by the Accounting Court Commission:

1 - In view of the fact that up until the end of the year 1364 [20 Mar 1986] based on Note 66 of the National Budget for 1361 [21 Mar 1982 -20 Mar 1983] the relevant organizations could have referred to the aforementioned authorities and solved the problems, therefore there will be no mention of the starting point of the year 1353. Whatever study may be done of past years, it seems unlikely to go back more than 18 years.

2 - Part of the message of this Article 1 is in Article 73 of the National Public Accounting Law, and there is therefore no need to mention it in Article 1.

3 - This reasoning is used for Article 3: The generalities in Article 1 give the executive officials an unlimited free hand.

Paragraph 4 - It is absolutely not in our interest to mention lost documents in this article, because for documents of this kind the law must be written by officials as double instructions.

At yesterday's open session arrival was announced of the Bill to Form Education and Training Councils in the nation's provinces and regions.

The Majles will meet in open session next Tuesday morning.

* 5 Jan

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[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met yesterday chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Nateq-Nuri, and the deputies from Bushehr, Iranshahr, Semirom and Sanandaj gave speeches. Then the Majles took up its agenda. The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open session was the Bill To Amend Note 30 of the National Budget Law for 1371 [21 Mar 1992-20 Mar 1993], which was passed in its general form.

The next item on the agenda was the motion to suspend final approval of the Budget Bill for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994], which was not approved as a very urgent motion and was rejected. We now direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the full proceedings of the Majles.

Legislation

The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the Bill To Amend Note 30 of the National Budget Law for 1371, which was approved in its general form by the deputies. It is necessary to note that urgent status was approved for it in the 9/22/1371 [13 Dec 1992] session.

Note 30 of the 1371 Budget Bill says: B) The War-Stricken Areas Reconstruction Staff is required to sell its unused housing and business units (whether it built them or purchased them), lands, producing factories, machinery and equipment, and to deposit the funds received from the sale in the public treasury to be used in the nation's general revenue account. First priority in the purchase of resources of this kind will go to refugees of the imposed war.

J) [as published] Credit from this law equal to 100 percent of the revenues received from the activity in Paragraph B of this note will be used to bring back and settle refugees from the areas damaged by the imposed war, to employ refugees, and to purchase insurance for workers in the Refugees Foundation who are working for the War-Stricken Areas Reconstruction Staff, in order to achieve the goals of reconstruction.

D) The sale of the units mentioned in Paragraph B, if they are located in the rural and agricultural areas, will be sold at the expert price to rural people and farmers in the same location, and if these people do not need them, or if the goods are located in other areas, they will be sold at auction.

After the general form of the bill was passed, the Majles considered its details. It approved Article 1 in the following form:

Article 1 - Paragraphs "B," "J" and "D" of the National Budget Law of 1371 are amended as follows:

B) The War-Stricken Areas Reconstruction Staff is required to sell its unused housing and business units (whether it built them or purchased them), lands, producing factories, shares, the movable and nonmovable assets of the companies under its control, machinery and equipment, property and surplus vehicles, and to deposit the funds received from the sale in the public treasury to be used in the nation's general revenue account.

Refugees from the imposed war and those workers in the War-Stricken Areas Reconstruction Staff who are separated from the staff may buy the tools, implements, and equipment as well as the vehicles for the purpose of creating employment.

J) [as published] Credit from this law equal to 100 percent of the revenues received from the activity in Note 1 of this law up to a limit of 30 billion (30,000,000,000) rials will be given to the War-Stricken Areas Reconstruction Staff to be used to bring back, settle and employ refugees, to build minimum housing for unsupervised and disabled imposed war refugee families in the areas damaged by the imposed war, and to purchase insurance and end-of-service bonuses for excess workers, in order to achieve the goals of reconstruction.

D) The sale of the units mentioned in Paragraph B will be sold on a priority basis at the market price in the following cases:

1 - Those located in the rural and agricultural areas will be sold to the rural people and farmers in the same location.

2 - Those purchased from imposed war refugees, or from the workers of the National War-Stricken Areas Construction and Reconstruction Staff.

3 - Buildings whose structures belong to the Reconstruction Staff and whose sites belong to real and legal entities will be sold to the owner of the site.

4 - Sale to government organizations, institutions and companies, to educational institutions whether government or nongovernment, and to public and nongovernment organizations.

The second item on the agenda was the motion to suspend final approval of the Budget Bill for 1372, which was presented as a very urgent motion.

Mohammad Qomi, a signer of the motion, said in his comments: According to law, the Budget Bill is to be presented to the Majles on 15 Azar [6 Dec], and it was presented a week late on 21 Azar [12 Dec]. Likewise Budget Supplement 2 was given to the deputies on 3 Dey

[24 Dec], and that was also late. Concerning the recommendations the deputies have and wish to present, due to the lack of time these recommendations have not been discussed in the specialist and joint commissions, or even if they have they have been rejected. Therefore a good study has not made in this regard. You must realize that this is the first budget for the Fourth Majles, and it is the first budget in which new subjects are discussed, since the Budget Bill takes foreign exchange policy and also standardizing the foreign exchange rate into account. It therefore requires a suitable amount of time to be written.

He then added: In the Budget Bill, the Economic and Financial Affairs Commission and the Plan and Budget Commission have discussed reducing the amount of the budget, and I think this will affect the budgets of the organizations. This is therefore another important matter for which the deputies must have sufficient time. It is therefore proposed that final approval of the Budget Bill be postponed until 25 Esfand [16 Mar].

Speaking in opposition to very urgent status for the motion, Mohammad Reza Bahonar said: In the first Five-Year Plan, we required the government to write the Budget Bill in such a way that it would be closed and presented to the government by the end of Daheh-ye Fajr. In view of the fact that implementation of the uniform foreign exchange rate will take place next year, the deputies have therefore taken part in the meetings of the commissions and the Plan and Budget Commission and have given their views.

He added: If we postpone the Budget Bill, many discussions and basic motions will be left in limbo. You must realize that by the end of this year [20 March 1993] the government wants to present the second Five-Year Plan, and the focus of the Fourth Majles is this very, second Five-Year Plan Law.

A supporter of very urgent status for the motion was Engineer Rahbari. He said: Since 69 percent of the deputies are new, they have recommendations for the preparation of the Budget Bill, which have not been taken into account, because of the practical time limitations. Shouldn't sufficient opportunity be given for the deputies to do a more careful study of the Budget Bill? Even in my conversations with budget experts they have said that they do not know whether the organizations will have a share of the foreign exchange. Likewise many commissions (the Plan and Budget Commission) have told us that there is not sufficient time for a careful study of the Budget Bill and have therefore asked that the Budget Bill be postponed.

After talks by supporters and opponents, very urgent status for the bill was put to a vote and was not approved and was rejected.

Mohammad Khajehpur, Deputy From Bushehr

The Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines plays a basic role in industries and mines in various countries of the world, and it must also have its lawful prerogatives in our country.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was Mohammad Khajehpur, deputy from Bushehr. At the beginning of his talk he discussed the progress of the electronic industries in our country. He said:

In view of the fateful and very important role and position that the sciences, technological, and electronic industries have in the structure of the military, medical, industrial and other advanced sciences of the world's various advanced nations, especially the industrial nations, those countries have a special administrator and ministry for electronic industry affairs. To employ all the instant advances in this fateful science and the techniques derived from it, there is definitely the need in Islamic Iran to have a specific administrator and unit that primarily makes policy and advances the defined goals of electronic industry in the country, and to determine priorities in this field, whether regarding electronics, communications, or computers for instruction in the rahnema'i and elementary schools, and in the universities, for the research needs at the master's and doctoral levels, for research cooperation at the master's and doctoral levels, and for research cooperation with other nations who have specialized contributions to make in this area. All the factories in the nation producing electronics, communications equipment and hardware and software should be under this mantle and it needs to have high-ranking political and executive capability at the level of a vice president or ministry with defined duties aimed at making these industries grow and produce in the country.

He said: Under current circumstances, several ministries are acting, each in an unorganized way, to achieve the goals and needs of their organization, and it has often been seen that an investment has been made even to meet needs beyond those of the investor with the idea for example of meeting the nation's needs and even beyond that, and not only was the investor unable to meet his own needs, but twice or several times that investment, a huge investment indeed, illogically failed to produce a return.

The deputy from Bushehr noted: The units engaged in production suitable for this great investment with this great flood of manpower are seen to have truly uncoordinated and contradictory management.

If this becomes an expert issue without increasing the financial cost, with new cadres created through the consolidation of specific sectors from this ministry, taking into account new goals, the position of this important industry in the country can be defined and developed.

He also called upon the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education to take a look at the quality of the abilities of those completing graduate degrees in the engineering and technical fields, especially in the electrical and petrochemical fields.

Khajehpur emphasized the need to approve the Legal Prerogatives Bill for the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines. He said: The Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines plays a basic role in industries and mines in various countries of the world. In our country also it has done many things since before the revolution, and in view of the basic and constructive role it plays in the nation's economy and the active involvement it must maintain internationally, and as in the past it must also have its lawful prerogatives in our country, and this will be made possible to an extent if the respected deputies will be good enough to approve the bill, which is on the Majles agenda with more than 60 signatures.

The deputy from Bushehr then discussed the problems in his electoral district. He said: It is the testimony of history that in the province of Bushehr, most of whose cities and developed areas are on the shores of the Persian Gulf, the people have always earned their living from the sea, either through fishing or through maritime trade with other parts of the world.

Unfortunately, since Kish Island went into operation as a free port it has caused the paralysis of the lives, livelihoods, and work of the people in this area, especially in my electoral district, places like Bandar-e Deylam, Bandar-e Gonaveh, Bandar-e Rig and even Bandar-e Bushehr, and those who had the ability to emigrate to other parts of the country, especially Tehran and Shiraz, have done so. In effect, we have negative population growth in these ports because of mass emigration.

Another problem is the extremely harsh customs laws for a people who want to obey the laws of our Islamic nation. These are a people who have the country's highest percentage of martyrs, wounded veterans, former prisoners of war and veterans, who constantly listen and have listened to the commands of the vice-regent of the Muslims, and they proved this to all the people in the world with their unparalleled and historic welcome for the exalted leader of the revolution during his recent visit. It is therefore not appropriate for the nation's respected customs officials to be so oppressive and harsh with goods and materials, which they themselves authorized or for which authorization was issued by other appropriate officials in this government, thereby making the lives and livelihoods of the people more difficult than before, and to coerce them, as they have not done anywhere else even to people who did not want to obey the laws and over whom customs officials and the police forces in that area have not been able to exert control of any kind. It is hoped that with the creation of customs and port facilities in the aforementioned places, it will be possible for these noble people to return to their cities and regions, and that it will be possible for them to resume living in the lands of their fathers and grandfathers.

Nur Mohammad Robusheh, Deputy From Iranshahr

In studying the 1372 Budget, the executive organizations must also take Baluchestan into consideration.

Nur Mohammad Robusheh, deputy from Iranshahr, was the next speaker. He used three minutes of the time of the deputy from Bushehr. At the beginning of his talk he offered congratulations on the birth of His Holiness 'Ali (peace be upon him).

He then said: In view of the events that have taken place in my electoral district, as I did in a memo to him on Sunday, I direct the attention of the minister of the interior as quickly as possible for one thing to the task of estimating the damages, and for another to helping the deprived and oppressed people in the district of Bozan, who have been oppressed throughout history, who have received favor from the sacred government of the Islamic Republic. I consider it necessary to thank Ayatollah Ghoyuri, and also Dr. Dastjerdi, who has shown the ultimate kindness in service to the deprived and oppressed of that area, and I thank Dr. Ghoyuri, who has treated and continues to treat the deprived people like a father.

I also thank and praise the respected speaker of the Majles, who has mentioned the deprivation of this area in every regard and at every opportunity to the executive organizations, and who has always shown his favor to those people.

He then added: The executive organizations must be somewhat mindful and realize that the president of the republic has presented the budget to the Majles and that it is undergoing expert review and planning in the commissions. I direct their attention to the fact that they must take Baluchestan into consideration, and while I ask that economic adjustment take place in the province, I hope that more favor will be conferred on the deprived province and truly, as the late Imam (peace be upon him) said, there is no room in the sacred Islamic government for a people who have been oppressed throughout history to remain oppressed. God willing, the executive organizations will pay attention to this important matter; do not leave the people waiting for services any longer.

In conclusion the deputy from Iranshahr issued memos to the minister of culture and higher education concerning the construction of a university in Iranshahr, considering that it is an industrial and agricultural center and to the minister of the interior concerning expert work and estimating the damages from events, and he asked for action.

Mahmud 'Atarzadeh, Deputy From Semirom

It is incumbent on officials not to contradict each other in their press conferences and statements, as they seek to offer the people a proper analysis and to invite their participation.

The next speaker was Mahmud 'Atarzadeh, deputy from Semirom. In his talk he offered congratulations on the

birth anniversary of His Holiness 'Ali. He said: With the collapse of communism as an atheist front in the ideological war with the exalted and rich teachings of dear Islam, imperialist America, as the leader of Western imperialism, in designing the new world order, is seeking to divert the minds of those newly freed from 70 years of Marxist dictatorship from the liberating and oppression-fighting message of the Islamic revolution. On the one hand it is stopping the revolutionary movements inspired by the values of the Islamic nation of Iran, which are going to the farthest parts of the Muslim world and helping the deprived to defend their rights, and in the implementation of its imperialist policies, it portrays itself as the savior of the world.

He added: It is at such a time that the Islamic revolution must create a wave of its populist values in its active involvement in the world's political and social affairs and it must prove that it is able to save human society from collapse and deviation. The nation of Iran must recognize by virtue of the intensity of the Satanic provocations and tricks by imperialism and its agents that the enemy has understood better than us the strength of the foundations of the Islamic revolution. The implementation and the successes of the first Five-Year Plan, the changes from the economic policies, and the future that the second Five-Year Plan outlines has terrified the enemy. With military, cultural and political mobilizations to the [illegible] centers of the message of the Islamic revolution, the enemy has set out to control nations, and an example of this is the delusions and provocations of the reactionary Arab sheikhs and the old historic questions of the Iranian islands, in order to distract the public opinion of nations from the crimes of its agents in occupied Palestine, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Central Asia, India and other parts of the world. The speaker then noted: Once more our revolutionary nation has understood the times and made its way through temporary trials to cross the bridge of victory by implementing the policies of economic adjustment, according to which the 1372 Budget Bill is also designed, and it has identified the most essential path for making change and restoring the nation's economy, and in order to succeed in the knowledgeable implementation and the comprehensive understanding of affairs, the nation will help the nation's planners and executive officials. It is therefore incumbent on officials not to contradict each other in their press conferences and statements, as they seek to offer the people a proper analysis and to invite their participation through increasing awareness.

By discussing the realities, which will lead to the implementation of the new economic policies, as in the past they must seek the aid of the patient and tolerant nation, and they must be assured that the people will be more ready for economic changes. Indeed, by speaking on their views and being more actively involved in labor and production affairs, they will reduce the negative effects of the restraining factors and obstacles caused by the policies of economic adjustment.

He then emphasized the importance of agriculture in the country and the small amount of attention given to it in the 1372 Budget Bill. He said: I am not an expert nor a member of the Agriculture Commission, and I am not affected by prejudice towards one sector. However, without prejudice and relying only on the existing realities and statistical data accepted and agreed to by planning officials, and in a comprehensive deduction and analysis of investments, expenditures and their results, I have come to the precise conclusion that our economic development, in view of the potential and powerful resources in the agriculture sector, will either be impossible or very difficult without relying on this sector.

This sector therefore has the ability to produce the maximum added value with the least expenditure compared to the other sectors. Otherwise, we must prepare ourselves to spend much more in the environments and areas of production here and there in the cities merely to meet their service and living needs, and certainly this is not the desired method for a sound social and economic policy and plan.

He said: In the second Five-Year Plan it is necessary, to give more serious support to the agricultural sector and the significant population that works in it and whose life in general depends on it, to pay attention to the following essential points:

1 - Developing the rural areas and making them prosperous through infrastructure activities;

2 - Bringing industries into the service of the agricultural sector;

3 - Giving importance to the agricultural transforming and subsidiary industries in order to raise the incomes of rural people;

4 - Creating export resources to earn foreign exchange revenues;

5 - Giving importance to water and soil conservation and the development of natural resources as the basis of all economic activities, especially in agriculture;

6 - Implementing subsidy policies to make agricultural work in the country economical.

'Atarzadeh emphasized strengthening more than before the Deprived Areas Office, and he reminded the nation's executive officials about the problems in his electoral district, including the creation of transforming and subsidiary industries in the agricultural sector, the creation of an agricultural college, the construction of connective roads to the cities in the north part of Fars, and expediting the creation of gas delivery services in the Semirom area.

Mohammad Reza Rahimi, Deputy From Sanandaj

The government must reduce the extent of its work, forget about centralization, and reduce its expenses.

The final pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Reza Rahimi, deputy from Sanandaj. In his speech he discussed the expulsion of Palestinian Muslims from the land of their fathers and grandfathers, as well as the killing of Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina. He said: Raising the issue of Abu Musa and the occurrence of these crimes in Palestine and Bosnia-Hercegovina is one of the great tricks of world imperialism for diverting the people of the world from the influence of the world of Islam.

The deputy from Sanandaj said: Today, the practice of relying on the great economic, political, and military powers who hold power in the world competes with a new category called the power of the word, and the power of the word and the authority over hearts is a new category that entails the power of translation and meaning, and today Islam and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran have a monopoly on this meaning.

Rahimi added: The imperialist powers have resorted to trickery to defeat this meaning, and they have no way to defeat the power of the word and the authority of Islam over hearts other than to accuse Iran of not observing human rights, practicing terrorism and obtaining nuclear weapons.

He discussed the fact that the planners of this accusation and the people of the world are aware of this trick. He said: All of this talk is because of the influence of the word of Islam, and today, along with the economic powers, who understand dollars and steel, and the military powers, who are confined to nuclear bombs, the Islamic Republic of Iran, using the influence of the word and the authority it has over hearts, is seen alongside the world's great powers.

The deputy from Sanandaj noted: All the events happening in the world in the name of Islam, including genocide in Hercegovina, the expulsion of the Palestinians and the measures taken by the puppet governments in the Persian Gulf, are done to oppose the influence of the word of Islam.

He added: God has given the key to victory in the Persian Gulf to the Muslims, and today the world's ignorant rulers have made it difficult to use this key to victory. We are a large agent who will give this awareness to the people of the world in the name of the Islamic revolution.

Rahimi said that the 1372 Budget Bill is an important issue of the day in the country. He said: The Majles has given great importance to it and will give it serious study.

He added: Our nation's budget relies on oil and we must not overlook the major energy that is in the rural areas. We must give special attention to our water and soil, because in the world's future the most important subject will be water, soil, and ultimately, grain.

The deputy from Sanandaj emphasized reinforcing the private sector. He said: We must get credit out of the banks and government companies monopoly. In accordance with the plan, we should turn the work over to the people, but this has not been vigorously done so far, and we are even behind the level designated in the Five-Year Plan.

Continuing, the speaker said: The government companies have been formed to show a desirable balance of economic payments and returns, and in view of the advent of the uniform foreign exchange rate, these companies must find a way to free themselves as soon as possible from need of the national budget, otherwise, they had better either be turned into government institutions and organizations or turned over to the private sector.

He added: The government must reduce the extent of its work, forget about centralization and reduce its expenses.

Rahimi said that in one province there are 400 staff workers and 350 vehicles for their use. He said: All those who make unauthorized use of these vehicles are guilty of religiously and legally unlawful expenditures and use of resources.

Continuing, Rahimi discussed the agricultural sector. He said: As His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him) and the exalted leader advised, agriculture must be the focus, because no economic sector can employ the mass Muslim population of Iran as much as agriculture.

The deputy from Sanandaj thanked the minister of agriculture for reducing wheat imports from five million tons to two million tons. He said: If we rely on our own soil and improve agriculture, a great many problems will be solved.

With reference to the deprivations in the province of Kordestan, he added: This province demands the concern and attention of all Muslims. Most of this province is 10 years behind other parts of the country.

He noted: This province is now suffering from heavy snows and the mountain roads are suffering from the lack of fuel. I am surprised that the Ministry of Petroleum, with all the existing resources, allows the government's prestige to be damaged and does not help the people of this area.

* 6 Jan

93AS0435A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 9 Jan 93 p 6

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division. The Majles met last Thursday chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Rowhani and the deputies from Shahr-e Kord, Bahar, Kabudar Ahang, and Tabriz gave speeches. Then the speaker of the Majles gave a speech discussing the qualities of His Holiness 'Ali (peace be upon him). Then the Majles took up its agenda. The first item on the agenda at yesterday's open Majles session was the rejection of the proposed law to prohibit increased treatment tariffs, whose study had been tabled for six months by

approval of the deputies. The second item on the agenda was the bill to change the limit on the transactions mentioned in Article 87 of the National Public Accounting Law, whose general form was approved. The next item was the bill authorizing adding the name Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the revised text of the Paris Convention, Article 1 of which was approved by the deputies. The next item on the agenda was the Bill To Append an Article to the Law Amending Part of the Regulations Pertaining to the Base Wage of Official Faculty of Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning, which was approved. The final item was the Bill Amending the Credit Law for Ordinary Documents for Loans Paid by Rural Cooperative Companies, of which Article 1 was approved by the deputies. We now direct the attention of our esteemed readers to the full proceedings of the Majles.

'Ali Mobini Dehkordi, Deputy From Shahr-e Kord

The struggle with world imperialism is not a superficial struggle of slogans, it is an orthodox and deep struggle, which takes on all the effects and manifestations of world imperialism.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open Majles session was 'Ali Mobini Dehkordi, from the Shahr-e Kord electoral district. [passage omitted on praising Islam and the Islamic Republic]

He noted that we now consume more than one million barrels of fuel per day. He said: Homes and vehicles must lead the way with conservation. Our engineers must redesign the system of vehicles so that we will not see high consumption in automobiles. Likewise, with a careful and comprehensive study of the methods of baking bread and milling wheat flour in the country we can seriously prevent the loss and waste of bread, and with the use of scientific mechanized methods, we can really guide the nation's culture of investment.

Then in conclusion he mentioned some press publications in connection with preserving the dignity of officials, and he asked the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance to deal decisively with such activity. He asked for help from the president of the republic concerning the independence of the Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari Area Water Company, from the minister of petroleum concerning the development of the province's gas delivery network, especially in the rural areas, and from the minister of the interior concerning the implementation of national divisions in the above province.

'Ali Ya'qubi, Deputy From Bahar and Kabudar Ahang

Officials, following the leader of the revolution, must avoid ostentation, waste and dissipation, adopt the simple life and be among the people.

'Ali Ya'qubi, deputy from Bahar and Kabudar Ahang, was the next speaker. [passage omitted on pious and simple living]

Continuing, Ya'qubi said: In the near future the followers of Americanized Islam in Cairo will hold a large meeting attended by several Islamic nations and more than 100 court clergymen, supervised by Mubarak, in order to begin their comprehensive and so-called organized struggle against the Islamic movement, but these people must realize that the fate of these mercenary prostituted leaders of theirs will be no better than that of the traitor shah.

He discussed the Budget for 1372 [21 Mar 1993-20 Mar 1994]. He said: In view of the fact that this will be the first budget approved by the Fourth Majles, it is especially important, and the respected Majles must study revenues and expenditures carefully and diligently. Above all, it must affirm a culture of contentment and economy, vigorously avoid the mania to consume and eliminate surplus expenditures.

Continuing, the speaker discussed the excessive importation of unnecessary goods and said: This has caused production stagnation in most domestic factories and production. Last year about $40 billion in goods was imported, and imports of goods that can be produced in the country must be stopped.

He emphasized the role and importance of agriculture in the nation's economy and the concern for it in the 1372 Budget. He said: This sector employs 30 percent of the nation's working population and it accounts for 23 percent of the added value. However, a study of the 1372 Budget Bill shows that this sector has been treated unkindly, so that the growth in the national development budget in 1372 compared to 1371 [21 Mar 1992-20 Mar 1993] was about 234 percent, while this growth in the agricultural sector was 13.8 percent. The growth in province development credits in the 1372 Budget compared to this year is 110 percent, and it is 79.7 percent in the agricultural sector. The growth in economic affairs in the 1372 Budget Bill is 479.2 percent for current expenses and 244.4 percent for development, while the growth in current expenses in the agricultural sector is 81.9 percent and development growth in that sector is 37.7 percent. Therefore a comparison of these statistics shows that in the 1372 Budget the agricultural sector has not found its place.

Another point in agriculture is support for the small producer. If the accounts of agricultural groups, especially chemical fertilizer, were figured in free-market foreign exchange, small farmers would be absolutely unable to produce. All the developed countries based on the free-market pay significant sums in direct and indirect guarantees to support farmers. For example, in 1990 the nations of the Economic Cooperation and Development Organization paid more than $300 billion in direct and indirect subsidies to farmers, and every nonfarming European pays $900 per year to agriculture.

In Pakistan 90 percent of the cost of transferring agricultural water is paid as subsidies. All the developed industrial nations pay agricultural subsidies in some

way. Therefore with regard to chemical fertilizer, which has production efficiency of 55 percent and plays a great role in increasing production, for small farmers, who lack the ability to buy and use it at free market prices, the government must pay the necessary subsidies on it along with other basic goods.

He then asked for help from the minister of culture and Islamic guidance in the establishment of a guidance office and from the chief of the National Registry and Deeds Organization in the construction of an office of documents and deeds registration.

Fatemeh Homayun-Moqaddam, Deputy From Tabriz

Mr. Butrus-Ghali, protect the reputation of the United Nations and do not throw this organization to the wind. By protecting America's secrets you have disgraced the United Nations.

Fatemeh Homayun-Moqaddam, deputy from Tabriz, was the final pre-agenda speaker. She offered congratulations on the birth of His Holiness 'Ali (peace be upon him), and said: In all periods of history and in this time, unbelieving capitalists have feared the grandeur and glory of all-encompassing Islam.

The message of the Islamic Republic of Iran arises from the rich culture of Islam, which draws the most outstanding minds toward the Koran.

She discussed the despair of the enemies of Islam of military invasion. He said: The enemies are using all their potential abilities and their various methods seeking help from the mechanisms of unholy elements, and they are making comprehensive efforts to create corruption and economic crisis.

All the experts agree that Mr. Hashemi is sacrificing to achieve a real restoration of the nation's economy.

She added: On this path our nation must help the sacrificing Hashemi, whom the Imam considered to be like a teacher for our revolution.

I propose that we name the new year the year of economy, production and the year of effort.

In conclusion she addressed the two nations of Azerbaijan and Armenia. She said: Iran has said again and again that America and its agents will not take its hand from your shoulder. They want to fan the flames of war among you newly independent nations, but Iran's aware president of the republic wanted to establish a lasting peace among you. Now for this purpose go back and settle your differences peacefully in a conference between Iran and Russia.

The Conference of Islamic Leaders must not adopt the line of compromise. Israel is in a weak position. The brave people of the intifadah expect that this is the time to receive concessions, not the time to give concessions. The people of Palestine are the strongest and most genuine nation, and they spend long nights in the cold of winter chanting Khomeyni, o Imam, and their cries of death to America ring out in the skies.

Addressing the American president of the republic, Fatemeh Homayun-Moqaddam said: You must take the responsibility that you want to pursue the new world domination, and you will clearly be defeated.

Mr. Butrus-Ghali, protect the reputation of the uNited Nations and do not throw this organization to the wind. By protecting America's secrets you have disgraced the United Nations; this approach is a mistake. Soon the fate of the United Nations will become the fate of the despotic United Nations, because the people of the world are awake and they see your action and your inaction.

Legislation

Proposed Law To Prohibit Increased Treatment Cost Tariffs

The first item on the agenda at Wednesday's open Majles session was the report from the Hygiene Commission concerning the rejection of the Proposed Law To Prohibit Increased Hospital Treatment Cost Tariffs. After comments by a member of the Hygiene Commission, a number of deputies requested the tabling of this motion for six months, and this proposal was approved with 99 votes in favor and 86 votes against out of a total of 185 votes.

Bill To Change the Limit on the Transactions Mentioned in Article 87 of the National Public Accounting Law

The second agenda item was the report from the first consultation of the Accounting Court Commission and the Budget and Financial Affairs Commission concerning the Bill To Change the Limit on the Transactions Mentioned in Article 87 of the National Public Accounting Law, which was approved in its general form by the deputies.

Beytollah Ja'fari, the expert for the Accounting Court Commission, spoke on this bill. He said: Since the budget ceiling has increased and the government's needs have increased and the government has a freer hand in order to be able to maneuver more and better economically, and finally since the government is under the supervision of the National Accounting Court and the strong views of the Majles, the commission has approved this bill so that it can take the government's hand in this regard.

Based on the bill's proposed Article 1, "the limits on transactions mentioned in Article 87 of the National Public Accounting Law enacted in 1366 [21 Mar 1987-20 Mar 1988] is increased from 20 million rials to 2 billion rials."

Bill Authorizing Adding the Name Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Revised Text of the Paris Convention

The third item on the agenda was the report from the Judicial and Legal Affairs Commission concerning the Bill Authorizing Adding the Name of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Revised Text of the Paris Convention to Protect Industrial, Commercial, and Agricultural Property and the convention to create a World Spiritual Property Organization, Article 1 of which was approved in the following form by the Majles.

Article 1: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has the authorization to be annexed to the revised text of the Treaty to Protect Industrial, Commercial, and Agricultural Property of the Paris Convention, implemented in Stockholm in 1967 and 1979. The government is also to announce its addition to the Convention To Create a World Spiritual Property Organization (a branch of the Paris Union), signed 14 July 1967 in Stockholm, and the subsequent amendments made on 2 October 1979.

Bill To Amend an Article to the Law Amending Part of the Regulations Pertaining to the Base Wage of Official Faculty of Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning

The next item on the agenda was the report from the Culture and Higher Education Commission concerning the Bill To Amend an Article to the Law Amending Part of the Regulations Pertaining to the Base Wage of Official (teaching and research) Faculty Employed at and Retired From Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning, the general form of which was approved by the deputies.

Article 1 of this bill says: The following text is added as Article 9 to the Law Amending Part of the Regulations..., enacted 12/16/1368 [Mar 16 1990]

Article 9: In the event that they have implemented Tehran University's faculty employment guidelines concerning their (teaching and research) faculty, and if their academic and employment situation conforms to the regulations in the aforementioned guidelines, all institutions of higher learning and research affiliated with the government ministries and organizations, which were established on the basis of legal regulations are subject to the regulations of this law.

Note: The ministries mentioned in Article 3 and Article 7 must seek the views of the ministries and institutions mentioned in Article 9.

It is necessary to note that the Culture and Higher Education Commission proposed that this be a single-consultation bill. This proposal was put to a vote and was not approved and was rejected. Therefore, the details of the above bill will be studied in the aforementioned commission.

Bill Amending the Credit Law for Ordinary Documents for Loans Paid by Rural Cooperative Companies

The final item on the agenda was the report from the second consultation of the Agriculture Commission concerning the Bill Amending the Credit Law for Ordinary Documents for Loans Paid to Members by Rural, Tribal and Fishing Cooperative Companies, enacted 1/17/1365 [5 April 1986]. Article 1 of this bill was approved by the deputies in the following form:

Article 1: Documents and contracts pertaining to loans and credits, including interest-free loans and other Islamic contracts paid to unions and members of rural, agricultural, tribal, fishing, rural industrial and carpet cooperative companies, provided that the base amount of the loan is no more than 2 million rials, will be treated as official documents and in terms of implementation will be subject to the provisions of the Official Documents Guidelines.

Comments by Deputy Majles Speaker

In a speech to Wednesday's open Majles session, Dr. Hasan Rowhani offered congratulations on the birth anniversary of His Holiness, the Commander of the Faithful 'Ali ibn Abi Talib (peace be upon him). He then said: Although it is beyond the capabilities of an ordinary person to describe the totally proud life of the Commander of the Faithful (peace be upon him), it is possible to study the verses of the Glorious Koran, which are about that holy man, and the thousands of traditions of the Prophet of God (peace be upon him) and the chaste Imams (peace be upon them), which are about that holy man. Among the characteristics of that great man, whose entire life was a lesson for all of us, was his "being in the forefront and being a volunteer." In all good things 'Ali (peace be upon him) was in the forefront, and he was always a volunteer for jihad, sacrifice, and heavy responsibility.

The deputy speaker of the Majles added: With these two characteristics, the Muslims can stand against the imperialist powers. Our people are proud of their love of the Commander of the Faithful (peace be upon him), being Shi'ite and of following that great man, and in the shadow of this pride they have achieved great victories in the Islamic revolution. Fortunately, in the current age, meaning the age since the triumph of the revolution, the path is both smoother for knowing more about the life of His Holiness and smoother for following his commands and implementing his customs and path for the people.

In conclusion, Dr. Rowhani expressed the hope that we will all be able to continue on the path and to follow the teachings of that holy man.

* Majles Deputies Condemn GCC's Recent Decisions

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[Text] The recent resolution of the members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] on Wednesday was issued while the Islamic world, more than any other time, needs unity, at a moment when the innocent and unsheltered victims of Bosnia-Hercegovina and Tajikestan have their hopes set on the help of the Islamic countries, at a moment when the Palestinian deportees on the border of Lebanon are witnessing the occupation of their Islamic homeland and the wounding and martyrdom of Palestinian youth at the hands of usurping Zionists, and finally at a moment when the traitors to the Palestinian ideals continue dishonorable and shameful negotiations that are designed and managed by the Great Satan.

When the just cries of Muslims are stifled in their throats throughout the Islamic world and the Babri Mosque is leveled, even in Islamic countries such as Egypt and Algeria, the brave young people of Islamic nations are sent to the firing squad for supporting Islam and the real revitalization of mosques. What could raising a deviational and disuniting issue, as has been done by the GCC, mean but to serve to please the global oppressors and their agents, who are outside the Persian Gulf igniting the quarrel in order to cover up their crimes? It is shameful for the leaders of the Arab countries in this council, instead of engaging in practical and effective actions in support of the oppressed people of Somalia and Bosnia-Hercegovina, to issue such a resolution.

We the deputies of the Majles are deeply saddened by this negligence and lethargy that has overtaken our Muslim Arab brothers in the Persian Gulf and condemn the incorrect and unmeasured resolution of these negligent and inexpedient rulers.

The history of the Islamic Republic's rightful ownership of the islands of Tonb-e Bozorg, Tonb-e Kuchek, and Abu Musa is not unknown to these gentlemen. If they know of any evidence stronger than what the Islamic Republic holds, let them present it, especially since Tehran has left the door to negotiations open. They must also remember that land claims in the Persian Gulf are not in anyone's interest but the enemies of Islam and Muslims. Others also who have escalated such claims have not gotten any results but destruction and loss for themselves and the region. Why is it necessary for the members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council to get inspiration from that aggressive and harmful model and set their greedy eyes on the islands of the Islamic Republic?

The deputies of the Majles invite the Arab leaders of the Muslim countries of the Persian Gulf to think and be dignified and ask them to consider friendship and cooperation instead of such partial resolutions that bring no fruit except to create a gap and disunity in the lines of Muslims and happiness for international Zionism and by getting inspiration from the verse, "and hold fast, altogether, by the rope (which God stretches out for you) and be not divided among yourselves," [Koranic verse] advance towards the united Islamic front against the enemies who have targeted the body of the Islamic world from every direction with their conspiracies.